



CHURCH OF THE

Good Shepherd

One Flock, One Family, Living and
Sharing the Love of Christ

3200 Harbor Street ~ Pittsburg, CA 94565

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Email: office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org

www.facebook.com/goodshepherdpittsburg



Twenty-First Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Simon Peter
said to Jesus,

**“You are the Christ,
the Son of the
living God.”**

Matthew 16:16

AUGUST
23
2020

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The Parish Office is operating virtually during the pandemic. We will answer your phone calls and emails as soon as we possibly can. Our telephone system is now up and running! Thank you for your patience.

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

Monday- Friday

7:30am in the Garden- No livestream

Saturday

8:00am in the Garden— No livestream

5:30pm Vigil – Livestream Only

Sunday

8:00am (in the garden)- livestream

10:00am (in the garden)- livestream

12pm (Spanish) - Livestream Only

Communion

Drive through communion after each Mass in front of the church.

Adoration

Fridays 8am– 9am in the garden

Confession

Fridays 8am-9am in the garden

Saturdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm

or by appointment

XXI Sunday Ordinary Time

The key question: "Who do you say that I am?"

Jesus' question to his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" is not just a question addressed by the Master to his first followers. It is *the* fundamental question to which we are always responsible for those of us who confess to be Christians.

Our first reaction may be too quickly finding a doctrinal answer and routinely confess that Jesus is the "Son of God incarnate," the "Redeemer" of the world, the "Savior" of mankind.

Jesus' question does not simply ask us for our opinion. He challenges us, above all, about our attitude toward Jesus Christ. And this is reflected not only in our words and verbal statements, but above all in our concrete follow-up to Jesus Christ.

Jesus' words ask for a radical choice, either Jesus is for us one more person along with many others of humanity, or else he is *the* decisive Person who provides us with the ultimate understanding of our existence, gives a new orientation to our life and offers us the ultimate hope.

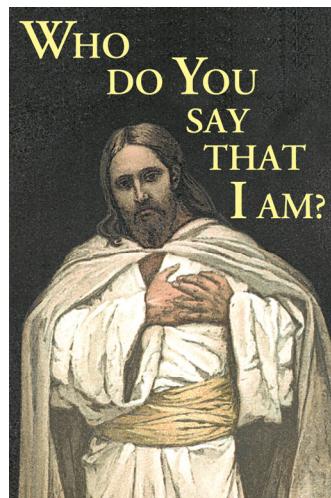
The question: "Who do you say that I am?," then takes on new content. It is no longer a question about Jesus, but about us. A demand on my faith and my life. Who am I? Who do I believe in? Where do I orient my existence? What does my faith come down to?

We must all remember time and time again that faith is not identified by the formulas we pronounce. To better understand the scope of "what I believe" it is necessary to check "how I live," to what do I aspire to? What do I commit myself to?

Therefore, the question of Jesus, rather than an examination of our tradition, should be the call to a Christian way of life. Obviously, it is not a question of saying or believing anything about Christ, but of living His message in all our actions in life.

I invite each of you to answer Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?"

Deacon Gustavo

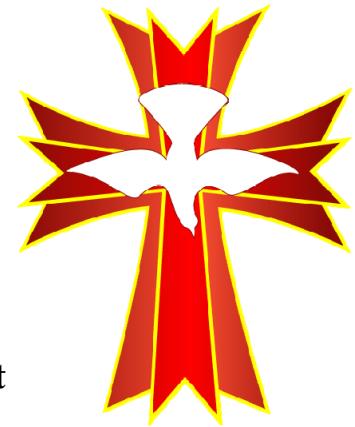


Hello Confirmation Students and Parents:

We are happy to finally be able to give you some concrete information regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation!

The celebration of the Sacrament has been approved by our Bishop for Saturday, August 29 in our Spiritual Garden.

We are still operating under the Covid 19 Order from the County and at the direction of our Bishop. Therefore, we will have to split the celebration of the Sacrament into two groups. Anyone whose last name begins with A through L will receive the Sacrament at 8 am on August 29; anyone whose last name begins with M through Z will receive the Sacrament at 10 am on August 29. This gives us the ability to accommodate 18 students at each time and allows their family and friends to attend with adequate social distancing. Everyone in attendance must wear a mask and keep 6 feet apart from people who do not live in your household.



Reconciliation and rehearsal for the Sacrament will take place in the Spiritual Garden on **Wednesday, August 26** at 7 pm for those whose last names begin with A through L and at 8 pm on August 26 for those whose last names begin with M through Z. Masks and social distancing will be required on this evening as well.

Thank you for your understanding as we move forward with the Sacrament under Covid conditions. This is the ONLY day the Sacrament of Confirmation has been approved to be celebrated at Good Shepherd, however, if you have any issues with the time you are scheduled, we may be able to accommodate a change depending on the circumstances.

We look forward to seeing you and celebrating with you.

Fr. Thi Van Hoang, Parochial Administrator

PERMANENT DEACON ORDINATION

Family of the Good Shepherd! We are honored to host another Diocesan Event in the Spiritual Garden which is the Mass of Ordination for 16 Candidates to be permanent Deacons. The Mass will take place at 8am, Saturday, September 12.

SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER

With mass attendance down due to the Coronavirus, we ask that you consider signing up for Electronic Fund Transfer so that we can keep the parish up and running during this difficult time. EFT is a safe, convenient way to give to the parish even when you are unable to attend mass or you are away on vacation. Simply fill out the bottom portion of this page and return it to the parish office at 3200 Harbor St., Pittsburg, CA 94565 or a form can be mailed or emailed to you. You can also visit our web site at www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org and conveniently donate through the DONATION NOW BUTTON. If neither of these manners of giving suit you, you can mail in your contributions any time you will not be present at mass or place them through the mail slot in the parish office door. Thank you for helping keep our parish afloat during this very difficult time.

Electronic Funds Transfer The Easy Way to Tithe!

**Church of the Good Shepherd offers a FREE tithing option more convenient for many of our members
-Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Program.**
The program has been a great success since we started it several years ago.

- You Tithe No More Than You Normally Do.
 - You Control How You Tithe.
 - You Choose A Tithe Frequency: Weekly, Semi-Monthly, Or Monthly.
 - You Choose When You Want Your Account Debited.

ENROLLMENT IN ELECTRONIC DONATION TRANSFER FOR SUNDAY GIVING

Please enter the amount you wish to give and how often:

\$ Weekly (Transferred every Monday)

\$ _____ Semimonthly (Transferred on 1st & 15th)

\$ _____ Monthly (Transferred on 1st or 15th—indicate preference)

\$_____ I wish to give this amount electronically weekly for 2nd collections using the same account information.

CREDIT CARD OPTION

Name **Credit Card Type**

Address _____ **Credit Card #** _____

Phone _____ **Expiration Date** _____

CHECKING ACCOUNT OPTION

Simply attach voided check

I authorize Good Shepherd Church to process entries from my credit card or checking account as noted above. This authority shall remain in effect until I give reasonable notification to terminate this authorization.

FROM THE CHAPEL

The Chapel has been temporarily closed due to coronavirus restrictions.

We will keep you updated in the bulletin of a re-opening date.

For Questions: Call Bill Abitz at 925-872-5852

Estamos muy contentos de anunciar que el Obispo aprobado realizar el **Sacramento de la Confirmación** para el sábado 29 de agosto en el jardín espiritual, para todas aquellas personas inscritas en la parroquia.

Para cumplir con las normas de Covid-19 y protegernos unos a otros, la celebración será dividida en dos partes:

Si el apellido de la persona que va a recibir el Sacramento comienza con la letra **A a la L**, recibirá el Sacramento **a las 8 am del día 29 de agosto. La Reconciliación y la práctica para este grupo será el miércoles 26 de agosto a las 7 PM**

Si el apellido comienza con la letra **M a la Z** recibirá el Sacramento **a las 10 am del día 29 de agosto. La Reconciliación y la práctica para este grupo será el miércoles 26 de agosto a las 8 pm.**

Se requieren máscaras y mantener la distancia social para estos eventos.

Les agradecemos su comprensión con todos estos procesos. Este será el único día que podremos ofrecer este sacramento, sin embargo, si usted tiene una situación especial o problema con su hora asignada por favor déjenos saber para ver cómo podemos ayudarle.

Esperamos verlos para poder celebrar con ustedes.

P. Thi Van Hoang, Administrador Parroquial



XXI Domingo Tiempo Ordinario

La pregunta clave: ¿Quién dicen que soy yo?

La pregunta de Jesús a sus discípulos: “¿quién dicen que soy yo?”, no es sólo una pregunta dirigida por el Maestro a sus primeros seguidores. Es la cuestión fundamental a la que hemos de responder siempre los que nos confesamos cristianos.

Nuestra primera reacción puede ser encontrar rápidamente una respuesta doctrinal y confesar de manera rutinaria que Jesús es el “Hijo de Dios encarnado”, el “Redentor” del mundo, el “Salvador” de la humanidad.

La pregunta de Jesús no nos pide simplemente nuestra opinión. Nos interpela, sobre todo, acerca de nuestra actitud ante Jesucristo. Y ésta no se refleja sólo en nuestras palabras y afirmaciones verbales, sino, sobre todo, en nuestro seguimiento concreto a Jesucristo.

Las palabras de Jesús piden una opción radical, o bien Jesús es para nosotros un personaje más junto a otros muchos de la humanidad, o bien es la Persona decisiva que nos proporciona la comprensión última de nuestra existencia, da una orientación nueva a nuestra vida y nos ofrece la esperanza definitiva.

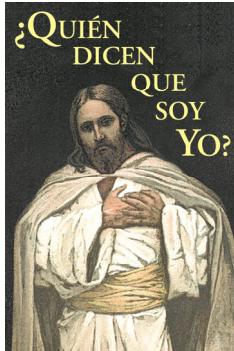
La pregunta: ¿quién dicen que soy yo?, cobra entonces un contenido nuevo. No es ya una cuestión sobre Jesús, sino sobre nosotros mismos. Una exigencia sobre mi fe y mi vida. ¿Quién soy yo? ¿En quién creo? ¿Desde dónde oriento mi existencia? ¿A qué se reduce mi fe?

Todos hemos de recordar una y otra vez que la fe no se identifica con las fórmulas que pronunciamos. Para comprender mejor el alcance de “lo que yo creo” es necesario verificar “cómo vivo”, a qué aspiro, en qué me comprometo.

Por eso, la pregunta de Jesús, más que un examen sobre nuestra tradición, debería ser el llamamiento a un estilo de vida cristiano. Evidentemente, no se trata de decir o creer cualquier cosa acerca de Cristo, sino de vivir su mensaje en todas nuestras acciones en la vida.

Les invito a que cada uno le responda a Jesús su pregunta: ¿Quién cree usted que yo soy?

Diácono Gustavo



**Thank you to the
AMERICAN RED CROSS
With the help of
MIKE & LEE ANN DOZIER
our beloved parishioners, for the donation of 13 beautiful
lobby chairs for the parish.**

We appreciate your thoughtfulness and willingness to help our parish.



American Red Cross

Please consider a blood donation as a way of saying
THANK YOU!



We pray for all of our students and families as they return to the virtual classroom and adjust to this new normal.

We pray for a smooth and successful new academic year and continued good health for everyone!

Shepherd's Closet Procedure During Covid-19

Due to the Covid-19 virus, Shepherd's Closet will continue to be closed until further notice. We will only be available in emergency situations. If you need help, you can call Ann and Bill Abitz at (925) 432-3995. Leave your name, phone number and a short message, and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Shepherd's Closet Supporters

We, at Shepherd's Closet, sincerely appreciate your many donations of food, clothes, diapers, etc. Because we will remain closed until the pandemic is over, we ask you not to bring any donations to the church. Our trailers are full, and there is no place for any more items (big or small). If you want to continue helping us during this crisis, we will still accept monetary donations. If you can, please mark your donation, "Shepherd's Closet," on the memo line of your check. This donation should not take the place of your regular donation, but be an addition to it. Thank you!

Mass Intentions

Aug 24-30

Mass Intentions For The Week



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Mon	7:30 am	Deceased Members of the Clavel Family † #
Tue	7:30 am	Death Anniversary of Vicente Viloria † *
Wed	7:30 am	Yolanda Orozco † *
Thu	7:30 am	Sal Cavallaro † #
Fri	7:30 am	Blanca Carreon de Mosca † #
Sat	8:00 am	Mae Giambona Edwin Echuluce † #
Sat	5:30 pm	Sam Hammett † *
Sun	8:00 am	Herbert † & Carmen Roberts
	10 am	Damiana Rubang & Federico Bartolo † *
	12 Noon	FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH *

*=Fr. Thi, #=Fr. Christopher

Parish Staff

Fr. Thi Van Hoang, Parochial Administrator
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frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Fr. Christopher Villa, Priest in Residence
925-752-6357- sem.doctope@gmail.com

Deacon Gustavo Escruceria
925-432-6404 Ext. 23
Deacon.gustavo@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Grace Yvette Ripoli, Business Manager
925-432-6404 Ext. 12
yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Carmen Esquivel, Parish Secretary
925-432-6404 Ext. 19
carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Aylin Gonzalez
Faith Formation
(Spanish Speaking)
925-432-6404 Ext. 20

WEEKLY COLLECTION: Please help contribute to the smooth operation and services of our parish, especially during this most difficult time. You can give your donations to any staff member or place in the mail slot in the ministry building door.

We appreciate your generosity and for making Good Shepherd a part of your family. Fr. Thi

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

**JEREMIAH 20:7-9, ROMANS 12:1-2,
MATTHEW 16:21-27**

NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

CONGRATULATIONS TO THREE LOVING COUPLES WHO HAD THEIR MARRIAGE CONVALIDATED LAST SATURDAY AUGUST 15.



From the left: 1. Joseph Ryan Marilla & Kristal Gayle Morales 2. Simeon Gutierrez & Julita Casaclang 3. Joe Camilo Rodrigues & Leticia Segovia

Dear Father Thi:

BISHOP BARBER'S THANK YOU LETTER

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you for hosting the Deacon Ordination this Saturday and for your invaluable support with coordinating all the logistics with preparation.

It was a very pleasant morning in the garden to hold such a special Mass. Please extend my heartfelt gratitude to your parishioners for their warm hospitality and for their invaluable support on such a special occasion for our diocese.

With the assurance of my continued prayers for your ministry, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+Michael Barber S.J.

The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.
Bishop of Oakland